

SENATE RESOLUTION 119  
By Harper

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Michelle B. Marrs upon  
being named the 2003 Person of the Year by the  
Urban Journal.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as business and community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Michelle B. Marrs, who was recently recognized by the *Urban Journal* as the 2003 Person of the Year for her many contributions to the North Nashville community; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Marrs has served with acumen and alacrity as the Chief Executive Officer at Matthew Walker Comprehensive Health Center (MWCHC) where she has earned the respect of her staff and colleagues alike for her enthusiasm and commitment to excellence; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of both North Carolina Central University and Harvard University, Ms. Marrs began her tenure with MWCHC following a distinguished career in public health in Massachusetts and North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, piloting the center's growth and providing vision for nearly six years, Ms. Marrs is most proud of the new state-of-the-art facility being built at the corner of Jefferson Street and 14th Avenue North, which is expected to open in October 2004; and

WHEREAS, through the consummate leadership of Ms. Marrs, MWCHC has delivered health services to the unemployed, underemployed, and uninsured in the community; her foresight has enabled MWCHC to grasp the impact of the current healthcare crisis that the city faces and has uniquely prepared the center to provide services for thousands of Nashville citizens; and

WHEREAS, a cancer survivor, Ms. Marrs' courageous triumph over the dreaded disease is a testament to her "compassionate hardheadedness" and she mostly attributes her success over the past year to the loving support of her staff and family; and

WHEREAS, serving MWCHC and North Nashville with pride and honor, Ms. Marrs has led the organization to a score of 94% by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and is currently striving to acquire donations to finish reaching their campaign goal in order to extend services without extending monthly debt; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Marrs epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Michelle Marrs for her dedication to the people of North Nashville; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend Ms. Michelle B. Marrs for her meritorious service to the citizens of Nashville, congratulate her upon being deservedly recognized as the *Urban Journal's* 2003 Person of the Year, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy